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Appl. No. 10/041,034
Amdt. dated September 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 26, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed June 26, 2006. Claims 4-77 were pending in the present application. This Amendment amends claims 4, 7, 15, 21, 29, 33, 37, 38, 41, 45, 49, 55, 60, 65, 71, 75, 76, and 77, without canceling or adding any claims, leaving pending in the application claims 4-77. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

I. Objection to the Claims

Claim 37 is objected to as including an informality, in particular using a comma where a semicolon is required. Applicants respectfully submit that the claim as amended includes no such informality. Further, claim 37 is objected to as reciting an improper form of the term "generate." Applicants appreciate the Examiner's helpful suggestion and have amended the claim accordingly. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the objections to claim 37 be withdrawn.

II. Provisional Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 5, 7, 21, 60, 65 and 71 are *provisionally* rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting as being obvious over claims 4, 44, 66, 72, and 81 of co-pending Application No. 10/041,015 in view of *Beauchamp*. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,621,505). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended recite the ability of a user to modify the functionality of at least one user interface element in an application user interface. Such a limitation is not disclosed or suggested by *Beauchamp*, as discussed below, and should be sufficiently distinct from the claims of Application No. 10/041,015 in their current form. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection with respect to claims 5, 7, 21, 60, 65 and 71 be withdrawn.

Appl. No. 10/041,034
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PATENT

III. Rejection under §101

Claims 4-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection with respect to at least some of these claims. For example, Applicants' claim 4 recites an internet application system that includes a user interface generator (operable to generate a user interface) and a web application server (operable to deliver the user interface to a client device). Components for generating and transmitting a user interface to a client to be displayed to a user, allowing a user to interact with an application, generate a useful, tangible, and concrete result and do not constitute an abstract idea. Further, components allowing a user to alter functionality of elements displayed in a user interface do not constitute an abstract idea, and produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result. Other claims, such as claims 7, 29, and 33 as amended, recite at least one element embodied on a computer readable medium where deemed appropriate. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-37 constitute statutory subject matter and respectfully request that the rejection with respect to claims 4-37 be withdrawn.

IV. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 4-27 and 29-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Beauchamp* (US 6,621,505). Applicants respectfully submit that *Beauchamp* does not disclose each element of these claims.

For example, Applicants' claim 4 as amended recites a customizable application system, including:

an internet application system operable to support an internet application, the internet application associated with metadata configured for generating a plurality of application user interfaces each having a customizable interaction model, the internet application system including a user interface generator operable to generate the application user interface and a web application server operable to deliver the application user interface to a client;

a personalization system including a personalization engine and a user profile interface, the personalization system operable to allow users to modify personalization data characterizing the customizable interaction model in more than one of the plurality of application user interfaces, the user-modifiable personalization data allowing the users to each modify the functionality of elements of the customizable interaction model for that user; and

a data repository including a data record for storing the personalization data, the data record being accessible using the metadata

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PATENT

(*emphasis added*). Such limitations are not disclosed by *Beauchamp*.

Beauchamp discloses the use of a set of predefined, standardized user-interface screens to allow an entity to implement various business processes in a way that is familiar to a user (col. 4, lines 13-46). Using the standardized screens also provides for shorter and less expensive development and maintenance of business processes (col. 4, lines 39-41), and requires less training for users (col. 4, lines 42-43). A process designer can select the screens and tools appropriate for any process to be accessed by various users, whereby a subset of the standardized screens can be used as appropriate (col. 16, lines 15-56). *Beauchamp* does disclose some level of *non-functional* user preference setting, such as setting the language or color of the interface as displayed to a user (col. 12, lines 33-36). *Beauchamp* does not, however, disclose a personalization system or a customizable interaction model for a user interface element. Further, *Beauchamp* does not disclose allowing a *user* to modify the *functionality* of any elements of a user interface. The process designer can select various screens and tools to be displayed to a user, but the user of *Beauchamp* is not disclosed or suggested to have any ability to control or modify any functionality of any element in a user interface. As such, *Beauchamp* cannot anticipate or render obvious Applicants' claim 4, or the claims that depend therefrom. The other pending claims as amended recite limitations that similarly are not disclosed or suggested by *Beauchamp*, for reasons including those discussed above, such that those claims also cannot be anticipated or rendered obvious. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejections with respect to claims 4-27 and 29-77 be withdrawn.

V. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Beauchamp* in view of *Helgeson* (US 6,643,652). Applicants respectfully submit that these references do not teach or suggest each element of these claims. Claim 28 depends from claim 21, which is not rendered obvious by *Beauchamp* as discussed above. *Helgeson* does not make up for the deficiencies in *Beauchamp* with respect to these claims. *Helgeson* is cited as teaching a client machine being a wireless device (OA p. 24). *Helgeson* teaches mapping between a generic interchange format and local formats that are device specific (such as to cell phone 411), whereby disparate business

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systems can be distributed across multiple hardware platforms and take advantage of native APIs (col. 1, lines 34-40; col. 2, lines 49-67). *Helgeson* does not, however, teach or suggest a customizable interaction model for a user interface element or allowing a user to modify the functionality of any elements of a user interface. As such, *Helgeson* cannot render obvious Applicants' claim 21, or dependent claim 28, either alone or in combination with *Beauchamp*. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection with respect to claim 28 be withdrawn.

VI. Amendment to the Claims

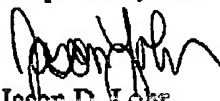
Unless otherwise specified, amendments to the claims are made for purposes of clarity, and are not intended to alter the scope of the claims or limit any equivalents thereof. The amendments are supported by the specification and do not add new matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


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